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them or out of them something more or less than they contain. Cardinal Newman once said that Horne Tooke worked his peculiar views even into the science of English grammar. It is perhaps morally impossible for most men to approach the great documents that chronicle the deepest lines of divergency without some bias or prejudice. In general the work is a serviceable one, though in the hands of a Catholic compiler the selection of materials would have been carried on along different lines.

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LES INSTITUTIONS COMMUNALES DE ROME SOUS LA PAPAUTÉ. Par E. RODOCANACHI. Paris : Picard, 1901. Pp. 424.

RODOCANACHI has added one more to his long list of works, and in this volume has returned to the field of Roman history. This is the ninth volume of considerable size published by him since 1894. Such rapid work is generally associated with carelessness, but we do not find it so in this case. In this work he claims only to give in outline the communal history of Rome, without any attempt at clearing up the many obscure details. It is a valuable study of a very obscure subject. While in general the city government and organization at Rome were like those of other Italian cities in this period, there are striking differences. There are the frequent periods of tumult and revolution which we find in other cities, but the results are not the same. This book explains why some family like the Colonna or Orsini did not occupy the same position of influence in Rome which the Medici family held in Florence. No one powerful family could gain supreme power, because of the presence of the pope. Conditions are now so different that the Roman experience does not give us much help on present-day municipal problems. One valuable suggestion might be the careful watch over expenditures and the searching investigation made into the official acts of each ruler at the close of his term of office. A marked characteristic was the short period of office-holding, many being for two months, rarely one for more than a year. The writer takes up the government of the city by epochs. After a brief survey of the organization of the city in the early Middle Age, the period from the ninth to the twelfth century is studied more carefully, and the conclusion is reached that, while there was a senatorial class, it was no longer an assembly, but an order. The statutes of 1363 and 1469 are studied carefully, and the later ones of 1519-23 compared with these. The

later chapters are taken up with an account of the decline of the communal rule. The book has a good summary at the end of each chapter and is well indexed.

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DIE NEUBESETZUNG DER DEUTSCHEN BISTÜMER UNTER PAPST INNOCENZ IV., 1243-1254. Von P. ALDINGER. Leipzig: Teubner, 1900. Pp. iv + 196. M. 6.

THE conflict between the papacy and the emperor Frederick II., inaugurated early in the reign of the latter and resulting from the determination of his guardian, Pope Innocent III., to exercise absolute control in civil as well as ecclesiastical matters, was somewhat assuaged during the pontificates of Honorius III. and Gregory IX.; but under Innocent IV., who possessed many of the qualities of his illustrious namesake, was reawakened and raised to its pristine intensity. The popes insisted that the choice of bishops and archbishops should be absolutely free from imperial interference and claimed the right to adjudicate on every election. Under the successors of Innocent III., Frederick had been able to keep on good terms with most of the German prelates without bringing them into antagonism to the papal authority. Under the latter the conflict broke out afresh in 1239; but the aged pope was not in a position effectively to withstand the interference of the emperor in episcopal elections or to coerce insubordinate prelates. In 1241 the archbishops of Cologne and Mainz entered into an offensive and defensive alliance and gave their support to the political opponents of the Hohenstaufen. The death of Gregory IX., and the papal interregnum of nearly two years, caused by dissension in the college of cardinals, prevented the papacy from utilizing fully the opportunity that had come for the realization of its aims. Innocent IV. gave an opportunity to Frederick to make peace on terms involving a recognition of traditional papal claims; but Greek had met Greek, and it was war to the knife. The author divides the reign of Innocent IV., as regards his attitude toward the German episcopate and the emperor, into two periods: the first, in which the ordinary means of papal warfare were employed and extending to the year 1246; and the second, in which extraordinary measures were employed, extending to the close of his career. Frederick had grown great through the co-operation of the bishops and